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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/608,667	06/27/2003	Thomas J. Mandler	062722-0150	7085
26371	7590	08/09/2005	EXAMINER	
FOLEY & LARDNER 777 EAST WISCONSIN AVENUE SUITE 3800 MILWAUKEE, WI 53202-5308			CHUNG, DAVID Y	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/608,667	Applicant(s) MANDLER ET AL.	
	Examiner David Y. Chung	Art Unit 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2005.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-90 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-19 and 32-90 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-24 and 31 is/are rejected.
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 25-30 is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>30 September 2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in the reply filed on May 13, 2005 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that a serious burden on the examiner does not exist. This is not found persuasive because it is believed that the subject matter between the two groups is distinct enough to require divergent searches.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 20 and 31 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Satoh et al. (U.S. 6,139,163).

Satoh et al. discloses a lighting unit wherein an LED light source is placed into a semicircular cylindrical shaped recess in the light guide plate. Note in figure 1, the light guide plate 12, LED 13 and recess 14. See column 2, lines 35-55. Satoh et al. does not disclose a base member having a conductive pattern. However, although not

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explicitly disclosed by Satoh et al., these features are inherent. It was necessary to place the LED on a base member for structural reasons and it was necessary to provide a conductive pattern on the base member in order to supply power to the LED. Satoh et al. discloses that the lighting unit is for displays having a backlight device. See column 1, lines 1-10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. (U.S. 6,139,163) in view of Youngquist et al. (U.S. 6,549,179).

Satoh et al. does not disclose applying a contrast coating on the light guide member. Youngquist et al. teaches applying an anti-reflective contrast coating to increase contrast and reduce glare. See column 8, lines 10-25. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply an anti-reflective contrast coating in order to reduce glare and improve contrast.

3. Claim 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. (U.S. 6,139,163) in view of Blanchard (U.S. 6,692,137).

Satoh et al. does not disclose applying a contrast coating on the light guide member. Blanchard teaches applying an anti-reflective optical coating to reduce the total surface reflections. See column 5, lines 39-46. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply an anti-reflective optical coating in order to reduce the total surface reflections.

4. Claims 23 and 24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satoh et al. (U.S. 6,139,163).

Satoh et al. does not disclose filling the recess 14 with a fill material and curing that fill material. However, it was well known and obvious to those of ordinary skill in the art to encase the LED in a fill material in order to provide more stability and it was well known and obvious that the fill material had to be cured in order to achieve that stability. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to encase the LED in a fill material and cure that material in order to achieve better stability.

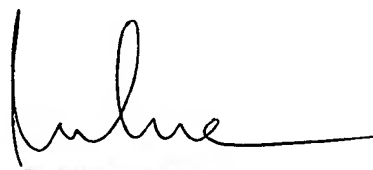
Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 25-30 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of Satoh et al. did not disclose separating the base member, conductive layer and light guide member into a plurality of pixels and examiner does not believe this would have been an obvious modification to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-2288. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.


DUNG T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER